

Concordia Chancellor David O'Brien donates \$2 million to further University's sustainable business education

Major gift to establish centre for sustainable enterprise will encourage environmentally and socially conscious business research and education

Montreal, November 18, 2008— Concordia University announced today a gift of \$2 million from its chancellor, David O'Brien, to create the David O'Brien Distinguished Professorship in Sustainable Enterprise and the David O'Brien Centre for Sustainable Enterprise.

The David O'Brien Centre will help organizations develop holistic sustainable strategies for environment protection, social justice and ethical corporate governance.

The Centre will house the David O'Brien Distinguished Professorship in Sustainable Enterprise and David O'Brien Distinguished Scholars in Sustainability that will focus on disseminating knowledge about sustainability and fostering sustainable enterprises and business leaders.

Under the leadership of John Molson School of Business Dean Sanjay Sharma, the Centre is poised to become the world's leading knowledge hub for sustainable research, teaching and business practice.

Mr. O'Brien said, "I feel strongly about providing future generations with the knowledge and resources they need to protect our environment and improve social equity. Concordia has proven to the business community and others that it is a Canadian leader in sustainability. I am pleased to choose to establish this professorship at my alma mater."

Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Judith Woodsworth said, "Mr. O'Brien's profound generosity bolsters our efforts to become a leading international teaching and research hub in corporate sustainability and will allow us to further strengthen our ties to the community. We are proud of his success as an alumnus and are grateful for his willingness to give back, both as Chancellor and as a major donor."

Mr. O'Brien is Chairman of the Royal Bank of Canada and Chairman of EnCana Corporation. He is a graduate of Loyola College, one of Concordia's two founding institutions, and became the university's chancellor in 2006.

Source:

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